

## EXTRACTS FROM WHITCHURCH HERALD 1869-1901

19/6/1869 The annual tea meeting of the Horseman's Green & Threapwood Temperance Societies took place on Wednesday 1st at Knolton near Overton.

At half past three a very pleasing site presented itself in the appearance of the members and friends of the Threapwood Band of Hope and Temperance Societies, they found a most beautiful tea laid out for them, provided by Mr and Mrs John Crewe of Horseman's Green. The programme was gone through in a most pleasing style. Melody: Pure Water Be Mine. Recitation: Aw'm Sure He's Drunk To-neet, Dialogue: The Teetotaller's Reply. Song: Poor Child of the Drunkard. Recitation: The Suicide. Song: The Drunkards Child. Recitation: The Lips that Touch Liquor Shall Never Touch Mine. After which this very interesting meeting was brought to a close and everyone left for their respective homes highly delighted with the day's enjoyment.

26/6/1869 (Report of another meeting on Wednesday in connection with the Threapwood Band of Hope Society) this was held at the farm of Mr Pierpoint, near the Sarn Bridge, a large number of friends assembled at the National School Room and from thence proceeded down Threapwood up Tallarn Green and thence back to the tent at Mr Pierpoint's. Soon after 4 o'clock the company sat down to a most excellent tea provided by Mr Burroughs of Tallarn Green. The Chair was occupied by the Rev G L Whitehouse of Threapwood. Included in the programme were: Recitation: Willie Gray's Dying Prayer. Melody: Drops of Crystal Water. Song: Pity ye the Drunkard's Children. Recitation: The Drunkard's Wife. Song: I'll Marry No Man if He Drinks.

9/10/1869 The Threapwood Bank of Hope and Temperance Society held a number of meetings last week, being Wake week. The first was at Brunet Farm on Saturday, Mr Wycherley of Malpas presided. On Monday, a Mr Allott of Bradford, agent of the British Temperance League, lectured in the Nation School, Overton. He had a distilling apparatus and took the alcohol from beet etc. On Tuesday at the National School, Threapwood, with Mr John Crewe of Horseman's Green in the chair, Mr Allott distilled a pint of ale with a variety of experiments. A grand barley pudding was distributed amongst the audience, showing them it was better to eat it than drink it.

9/4/1870 Sudden Death – An inquest was held by the coroner, Mr H Churton on Thursday week at a public house at Threapwood having the singular sign of the Holy Land, on the body of Elizabeth Powell, who had died suddenly. The deceased had been a dairymaid at Mr Gee's, Chorlton Hall but it seems that about eight years ago she gave her heart if not her hand to an Irish named Maide and they lived happily together for about eight years. A week ago, however, the deceased was much affected during her sleep, probably by nightmare but recovered and was as well as usual up to Monday night, when she went to bed at 9 o'clock. At one the next morning Maide was disturbed by her making a noise in her throat and found she was insensible. In five minutes afterwards she expired. There was no reason to think that death occurred from other than natural causes and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.

1/4/1871 Whitchurch County Court. Wednesday last, before Judge Harden, Edward Willis (Willington) v John Simmons (Threapwood) – Plaintiff said he had lent £1 to defendant and £2 to defendant's wife. They also had some straw which came to 3s. £1 15s had been paid so that defendant now owed £1 8s – Defendants wife appeared and did not deny the debt – His Honour said the defendant was evidently poor he should give a verdict for the amount, payable at 1s per week.

3/8/1871 Auction Sales. Freehold houses and land at Threapwood, Near Malpas in the county of Chester. To be sold by auction by Mr Cooper, at the Holy Land Inn, Threapwood. A dwelling house with cow-house, belonging to the occupation of Mr Richard Jones; together with the cottage and garden adjoining, containing in the whole 1a,1r,22p or thereabouts. Two dwelling houses, occupied by Mr John Mottershead and Mrs James Digby. A dwelling house in the occupation of Mr Joseph Brereton. A dwelling house in the occupation of Mr Robert Williams.

18/11/1871 Threapwood: Concealment of Birth. A good deal of gossip and scandal has been caused in the above neighbourhood by the finding of a dead body of a newly born child at the house of a widower named Francis Biggins and the discovery that the mother was a young woman named Emma Pierpoint the daughter of the highly respected farmer in the neighbourhood. The young woman had lived with Biggins as housekeeper and she alleges he was the father, Biggins denied the charge. An inquest jury decided the child died from neglect. Supt Bolton of Hanmer took the mother into custody on a charge of concealment of birth.

6/4/1872 Threapwood: Charge of Concealment. At the Flintshire Spring Assizes held at Mold on Thursday week, Emma Pierpoint pleaded guilty to unlawfully endeavouring to conceal the birth of her infant at Threapwood on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 1871. Baron Channell sentenced her to three months imprisonment.

4/5/1872 Threapwood: Foot and Mouth Disease. Within the past few days, two outbreaks of the above disease have broken out in Flintshire viz: at Mr T Carr's, Threapwood and upon the Castle Farm, Hawarden. 27 cases are now on record.

24/8/1872 Threapwood: Congregational Chapel. Last Sunday the Rev R Jones of Bangor is y Coed preached two good sermons. Then on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> instant, about 100 sat down to tea provided by Mr E Broad. Then young and old resorted to a field just by and amused themselves until 6.30pm. Then they heard a sermon preached in a tent by the Rev. R W Lloyd of Chester. The collection amounted to £10 to be devoted to the erection of a new chapel.

28/12/1872 (Classified ad) Threapwood: Cooper & Sons have received instructions from Mr John Higgins who is leaving the neighbourhood to sell by auction at his premises near the Holy Land Public House; his three well bred yearling heifers etc.

5/7/1873 Threapwood: Sunday School Treat. Teachers and Scholars of the Congregational Chapel Sunday school took tea served by Mr Edward Broad. After tea, oranges, nuts and sweets were ran and scrambled for to the children's great delight. A meeting was held in the evening when the children sang. An address was given by the Minister the Rev. J L Jones.

4/10/1873 Threapwood: Congregational Chapel Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held last Sunday. The sermon was preached by Rev J L Jones. A collection was made towards paying for the harmonium, recently introduced. The sum of £7 5s was realised.

25/10/1873 Threapwood: Opening of St Mary Magdalene Church. The church of St Mary Magdalene at Tallarn Green in Hanmer parish, the first stone which had been laid in August 1872 by the Hon Charlotte Kenyon, was opened on Wednesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> by the Lord Bishop of St Asaph. Though the day was showery the services in the morning and afternoon were largely attended. The procession formed at a neighbouring house and consisted of 8 choristers, 8 choirmen and 10 clergymen and the Bishop.

24/1/1874 Threapwood: Distribution of Prizes. On Tuesday the children of the Sunday school of the Congregational Chapel met to receive their prizes for good conduct and attendance during the year 1873. The Rev J L Jones, minister gave a very humorous and instructive address.

16/4/1874 Threapwood: Congregational Chapel. On Wednesday last the friends in connection of the above place of worship met to lay the foundation stone of a new chapel. The site chosen is that where the old chapel stood, though enlarged from the adjoining land. Rev J L Jones the pastor officiated. Afterwards Mr Thomas Huxley the senior deacon from Malpas presented a silver trowel to Richard Jones of Chester, on behalf of the Church at Threapwood who then in a workmanlike manner, spread the mortar and fixed the stone, declaring it well and truly laid. Mr John Roberts on behalf of his uncle, Mr Robert Roberts of Cuddington laid a second stone. Mrs E Broad laid another stone. The Rev T Robinson then gave the inaugural address.

5/9/1874 (Classified Ad) Threapwood: At the Holy Land Inn, Threapwood. For sale by auction was a freehold brick and tile house and out buildings and garden in the occupation of Mr John Fowles and adjoining the lands of Mrs James Carr and Mr John Payne and the high road from Threapwood to Oldcastle and being 1 acre of land.

26/9/1874 Threapwood: New Chapel. The Congregational Chapel at Threapwood was opened on Wednesday for divine worship. It stands on the site of the old chapel and has sitting accommodation for 100 persons and for a country place we never have seen a more compact and well finished chapel, reflecting credit on both the builder and people. Mr Huxley of Malpas is the architect and builder. The cost of the chapel will be about £300. The pastor Rev J L Jones of Malpas has succeeded in his ministration at Threapwood so well that since his pastorate the church has nearly doubled itself in numbers. There were services in the afternoon and evening and the collections amounted to over £16 including £5 sent by the Duke of Westminster.

7/11/1874 Broxton Petty Sessions: William Davies was charged with assaulting Jane Bevin of Threapwood on 13<sup>th</sup> September. The magistrates dismissed the summons. Complainant said she should want another summons for rape.

In addition, Joseph Bevin was charged with assaulting John Mountford at Threapwood on 13<sup>th</sup> September. The Bench inflicted a fine of 40s, in default, 2 month imprisonment.

22/5/1875 Threapwood: Presentation. Friends of the Congregational Chapel met for the farewell service for the Pastor, Rev J Landel Jones who is leaving for Witney, Oxfordshire. Richard Jones of Bridge Street, Chester, who laid the foundation stone of the chapel, presided. The old chapel was reared in 1850 he said when the members numbered 15, of whom only 4 were now living. The minister then removed, he continued and the place went down. 16 years ago another minister came, the congregation increased and the place prospered, after which he left them and it went low again. The number of members is now 4 times greater than it was 2 years before. The outgoing pastor was presented with a time-piece, which had a frame of black ebony, supported by 2 silvered boys and surmounted by a globe and cost about £10.

22/9/1875 Sale of Property at Threapwood. Cooper & Son were selling by auction freehold house and land at Threapwood at Mr Broad's Holy Land Public House, a dwelling house with outbuildings, garden and orchard and 3 pieces of arable land, total 4a 3r 33p, situated near the church at Threapwood, in the occupation of Mr John Preston as yearly tenant.

9/10/1875 Deaths: Harris 26<sup>th</sup> inst, of childbirth, Elizabeth, wife of Mr William Harris of Oldcastle and daughter of the late Mr Richard Mullock, formerly of Cherry Hill, near Malpas, aged 47 years.

12/2/1876 Accident: During the run from Broughton Hall with Sir Watkin's Hounds on Saturday last, in crossing a fence on the Crabtree Farm, Payne, the first whip, had the misfortune to get his favourite hunter so badly staked that the poor animal had to be immediately shot.

20/5/1876 Threapwood: At Mr Pierpoint's The Cae-li-Cae Farm, the annual tea party of the Temperance Society was held. After tea there was a meeting under the presidency of Mr Crewe of Horseman's Green. Addresses were given by Mr Atkins from the British Temperance League and Mr Huxley. The Rev J H Brown of Malpas and Robert Howard from Broughton Hall. The meeting was closed by singing from the Temperance choir of the neighbourhood.

1/7/1876 Whitchurch County Court: Before J St John Yates, Judge, Samuel Ralph Hall (Threapwood) v John Fowles. Claim for £2 8s 11d for groceries etc supplied. There was really no evidence and the judge made an order for the amount to be paid by instalments of 3s per month.

2/9/1876 Threapwood: Rev J Landel Jones of Witney, former pastor returned to preach 2 appropriate sermons at the Congregational Chapel anniversary service.

21/10/1876 Whitchurch County Court, before J. St John Yates Esq., Judge.

Damage to crops: Sarah Shone v Thomas Jones. The parties reside at Threapwood and are neighbours, plaintiff being a widow and defendant a farmer. The action was brought to recover the sum of £1 damage to crops by the trespass of defendant's cattle and money paid. Plaintiff stated that defendant's cattle had trampled on her hay grass, clover and potatoes and she had sustained £1 damage. Her land adjoined defendant's. She did not break down the fence herself. The fence was broken down by defendant's cattle. John Manford said he engaged to mow a field of hay grass for the plaintiff. He was to have 4s and 2 quarts of ale for the job but the grass was trampled so badly that he would not do it under 6s and 3 quarts of ale. One morning he saw 5 of defendant's cows in the mowing grass. He drove them out. He was going to defendant's house to tell him about it. Defendant met him and saw his cows coming over the fence out of the mowing grass. Mr Moyles said that on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July he found 3 of defendant's cows in plaintiff's grass and he drove them out. On the 10<sup>th</sup> July there were 6 beasts in it and after a time they went back into defendant's field. Defendant said the fence had been broken down by plaintiff who had been carrying chips from the sawpit through it for a month. The Judge, in giving judgement for plaintiff for 10s, told defendant he was bound to keep in cattle on his own land.

2/12/1876 Broxton Petty Sessions. (George Lewis was summoned for allowing 12 pigs to stray on the highway at Threapwood. The informant was R Howard Esq., who had seen the pigs straying. Mr Howard said the defendant had been warned by the police and by the road surveyors and had been fined. The chairman, J. Hurlston Leche Esq., said the nuisance of pigs straying was becoming intolerable and he had written to Mr Wilson (who?) to give the police instructions to bring forward all cases they found. The defendant pleaded not guilty and in reply to him, Mr Howard said that Mr Lewis was the leader of this 'pig movement' and had steadily refused to keep his pigs off the road. The defendant admitted that the pigs were his but called two witnesses to prove that the pigs were not straying but being driven from one part of his farm to another. The chairman said that the magistrates were of the opinion that the conviction would not stand in this case and therefore dismissed it. However he went on to stress that the nuisance of pigs in the country is becoming so great that something must be done to put a stop to it. He said it was perfectly unbearable, the state of the roads all over the country 'pigs are running over them' he said, 'over each other's farms, doing irreparable harm, and the farmers incalculable mischief. The law fixes the penalty at 5s and reasonable expenses, for driving the pigs home or pounding them.' (R. Howard incidentally was sitting on the bench. Is it the same Howard who brought the charge?)

2/12/1876 Broxton Petty Sessions. Henry Wynne, labourer of Threapwood, was summoned for keeping a dog without a licence. (P.C. Dowd had called on him, asking him for his dog licence. At first he said he had one and then admitted that he hadn't. The sub-postmaster of Hanmer proved that the defendant sent a boy to take out a licence for the dog later on the same day. Mr Webb Haine (Office of Inland Revenue at Malpas) said the defendant's wife admitted that the dog was a little over 6 months old. Another witness named Mary Bryce, from Liverpool, said her husband gave the dog to the defendant in April, at which time it was only about a month old.

The chairman said there was no doubt that the dog was over 6 months old, even though the defendant had said it was only a pup and he had aggravated his case by telling Mr White (Excise supervisor at Whitchurch) in August that he had no dog at all. As a punishment and a warning to others, he was fined in the full penalty of £5.

16/12/1876 Correspondence. Stray pigs case, Broxton. To the Editor of The Herald.

Sir, in the report of the above which appeared in your edition of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, I am charged by Mr Howard as 'being leader in this pig movement and steadily refusing to keep my pigs off the road' This I most emphatically deny; I am quite as anxious as Mr Howard to conform to the law and have used my best endeavours to do so. He has no doubt (as was show in evidence) seen pigs in the road, but they did not belong to your obedient servant, George Lewis, The Bank, December 14<sup>th</sup> 1876.

23/12/1876 Whitchurch County Court before Judge Yates, James Williams, Threapwood, grocer v Margaret Warburton, widow, £4 2s for goods supplied. Plaintiff said the groceries were had during the years 1870 and 1875 and had all been supplied to defendant herself. Defendant said that she was housekeeper to a man named Craven and the goods were for him. Plaintiff said defendant was living in adultery with Craven. What goods Craven had he always paid for. Defendant indignantly denied living with Craven in the manner that Craven had stated and she added that she had not been in plaintiff's shop since the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1875. A Mrs Simmons stated that defendant had told her in her (defendant's) house, that she owed the money to plaintiff and that if he would be quiet a bit she would pay him. She had had no quarrel with defendant. Defendant said that she (Mrs Simmons) has been trying to take my house from over my head, Judgement for plaintiff to be paid in instalments of 6s per month.

3/2/1877 Broxton Petty Sessions: Stealing oak trees. A man named William Griffiths was sentenced to 3 months imprisonment with hard labour for stealing two oak trees, the property of Mr Bracegirdle of Threapwood.

11/8/1877 Worthenbury & Threapwood Horticultural Society, annual show. Last Wednesday. As last year, it rained again, but still 150 to 200 attended by 6.30. Among those present were Rev. T H Puleston and Mrs Puleston, Worthenbury, V Somerset Esq. and Mrs Somerset, Worthenbury, Rev W H Trower and Miss Trower, Worthenbury. Mrs Howard and party, Broughton Hall and Mr Richard Mullock & family, The Pits, Malpas. Among the prize-winners: Amateurs Class: 6 culinary plums, 1<sup>st</sup> Richard Roberts, Worthenbury. 6 dessert apples: 1<sup>st</sup> Richard Roberts, 6 culinary apples: 1<sup>st</sup> Richard Roberts. Vegetables: 3 head of celery 1<sup>st</sup> John Webb of Worthenbury. 12 pods of scarlet runners: 2<sup>nd</sup> Charles Richards, Worthenbury. 12 pods of beans: 1<sup>st</sup> Charles Richards, 2<sup>nd</sup> George Gostage, Threapwood. 2 heads of large cabbage: 1<sup>st</sup> John Webb, Worthenbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> J Piggott, Threapwood. Altogether, Messrs Webb, Piggott and Richards more or less swept the board. In the Cottager's Class, Fruit, 6 dessert apples: 1<sup>st</sup> John Fowles, Threapwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> John Davies, Threapwood, 6 culinary apples: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel Humphries, Worthenbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> Williams Ankers, Worthenbury, Messrs Humphries and Ankers dominated the vegetables classes, 6 roots of autumn onions was won by Joseph Manford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel Humphries. In the Flower classes, the best arranged collection of wild flowers was won by Mrs Lockyer of Broughton, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Miss E Penk, Worthenbury. The neatest and best cropped garden: 1<sup>st</sup> Williams Ankers, Worthenbury (15s), 2<sup>nd</sup> John Davies, Threapwood (10s), 3<sup>rd</sup> Joseph Atkinson (5s). The Nantwich band was in attendance and there was dancing in the evening. The prizes were given away by the Rev T H Puleston at 6pm. The judges sat down to a most excellent dinner provided by Mr and Mrs Howe of Emral Arms Inn. Nut stalls and hobby horses etc were allowed in the village and 'we think it gave a more respectable appearance to the show'

2/2/1878 Hanmer Petty Sessions: before the Hon George Kenyon, chairman, The Rev. T G Puleston, P W Godsal, Robert Howard, A P Lonsdale and C Thorneycroft. Charge of using abusive and threatening language. George Lloyd the Worthenbury postman, was charged by the Rev Thomas Cox, vicar of Threapwood, with using abusive and threatening language towards him on 8<sup>th</sup> January at Threapwood, in consequence of which Mr Cox was in 'bodily fear'. The complainant said he lived at Threapwood and on the 8<sup>th</sup> January he ordered his workman to do some work to a fence and ditch on his premises. The defendant's land adjoined and witness sent for him and he came. Asked him if he would remove an obstruction. Defendant at this got into a great rage and said if witness would come into the field he would knock his brains out. He was very excited. Witness applied that the defendant should be bound over but only did so because he was in bodily fear and not from any feeling of malice towards defendant.

Cross examined by Mr Sherratt, Mr Cox said that defendant came first and then got into a great rage. 'I had a stick in my hand but did not raise it to strike defendant. Did not use a single threat to defendant. Defendant has no sense and never had. Defendant said he wished me dead. Defendant's wife came upon the scene and begged him to go into the house but he refused'

Joseph Smith, a man in the employ of the complainant said he was working on the 8<sup>th</sup> January, opening a drain adjoining defendant's garden. He asked the defendant to allow him to put the soil on his land. He refused and said to the complainant, who was standing by 'if you come on my land, I will know your brains out' Defendant was in a great rage, witness said. On the following day, defendant came again on the ground and accused the complainant of having broken his (complainant's) wife's heart and sent her to her grave. He said also that if he would come into the road, he would give him a croaking. Examined by Mr Sherratt, complainant did not say at any time that he would knock the defendant's head off.

Another case was then taken, namely that of George Lloyd against the Rev. Thomas Cox. This occurred on 9<sup>th</sup> January and the complainant (Lloyd) and the defendant (the Rev Mr Cox) met at the drain between their lands and had words. Complainant said that defendant said he had a good mind to come over the hedge and wring his neck out and put him head over ears into the pit or drive him into the house quicker than he came here. He (complainant) was in bodily fear because of the threats. He had no malice against the defendant. Daniel Lloyd, bother to the complainant, said he was present on 9<sup>th</sup> January and the last witness was speaking to Smith. Defendant then came up and called his (witness) brother a fool and also threatened to wring the complainant's neck out.

Magistrates then came to the conclusion to dismiss the case of ~ George Lloyd v Thomas Cox but in the case of Cox v Lloyd, the defendant was called upon to enter into recognisances to keep the peace for 6 months, himself in £10 and two sureties of £5 each.

22/6/1878 'Deaths, Diggery, 9<sup>th</sup> instant at Threapwood, Mt John Diggery aged 62 years'

20/12/1879 Whitchurch County Court before Judge Yates. John Jones v Lewis Broom. The plaintiff, a farmer residing at Threapwood claimed from defendant a travelling draper living at Alsager, the sum of £35 (after a long drawn out case, judgement was given for the defendant).

26/6/1880 Malpas Thunderstorms. On Tuesday afternoon a storm of unusual severity broke over this neighbourhood. Rain fell heavily for several hours and in such quantity that considerable damage has been done to the roads, bridges etc in the locality. Between Cuddington and Threapwood the roads were entirely flooded and eels were picked up of considerable size, having been washed out of the pits adjoining. Lightening bolts fell at Malpas and Oldcastle, though with only slight damage.

4/9/1880 Iscoyd Trap Accident. As Mrs Metcalf and two lady friends were driving from Threapwood to Prees and going down a hill near to Mr Smith's, Painters Green, the horse fell, throwing the occupants out of the trap. Mrs Metcalfe's face was severely cut and the horse badly injured. Assistance was promptly rendered from Mr Smith's to whose house they were taken, and we are pleased to say that after a rest of a few hours were able to continue their journey. This is the third accident which has occurred near the same place within a week.

2/10/1880 Broxton Petty Sessions, Drunkenness. Daniel Fowles, labourer, Threapwood was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Malpas on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August, the occasion of the Wakes. The defendant admitted being drunk but said he was not disorderly. He was let off on payment costs.

9/10/1880 Whitchurch County Court before J St John Yates – Judge. Rev Thomas Cox, vicar of Threapwood v Thomas Broad. Defendant had cut and removed 2 poplar trees growing in Threapwood churchyard. It had been decided at a previous hearing to allow the matter to be left to the arbitration of Mr John Whalley of Pepper Street, Chester, surveyor and he awarded plaintiff £2, defendant to pay all his costs.

5/2/1881 Deaths – Howard 29<sup>th</sup> inst, aged 25, Robert Morton Howard, barrister at law, son of Robert Howard of Broughton Hall, Malpas Cheshire.

18/6/1881 The Annual fete of the Hanmer, Tallant and Threapwood Church of England Temperance Society was held on Monday last by the kind permission of the Hon Misses C and H Kenyon on their grounds known as the Gelli, some three miles from Malpas. The house and grounds stand on an eminence, where a most delightful view is obtained of North and South Wales and is surrounded by some beautiful woods. The day started with a service at Tallant Church. Prayers were read by the Revs M H Lee, Vicar of Hanmer and G G Vaughan, Vicar of Tallant. A procession formed and headed by the Whitchurch band, proceeded to the grounds where tea, provided by Mr E Williams confectioner, Church Street, Malpas, was taken in a large tent, 450 sat down. Later the band played a selection of dance music and balloons were sent up at intervals. There was then a public meeting, first addressed by the Rev h Lee, who said that during the past year some member had left the neighbourhood and others had broken their pledges. The number of temperance members was 22, total abstainers 15, juveniles 43,

He then delivered a lecture aimed at those young people who fail to maintain their membership and fail to keep their promise not to drink wine, beer or spirits. Mr William Burrows thanked the Hon Misses Kenyon for assisting the choir and members at the Tallant branch by entertaining at their meeting with temperance songs and readings.

13/8/1881 Public Notices the Annual Worthenbury & Threapwood Horticultural Show was being advertised. Admission was one shilling each, after 6pm 6d. Children under 12 years old, half price. Tickets could be had from Mr S R Hall, Threapwood or from Messrs Webb and Kelsall, Worthenbury.

20/8/1881 Report on the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Worthenbury & Threapwood Floral and Horticultural Show, held in a field at Threapwood. It was yet another wet day. Refreshments were provided by Mr Willett of Wet Lane, Tilston. The Honorary Secretary of the Society was Mr Urmson.

3/9/1881 Broxton Petty sessions, George Mountford of Threapwood was charged by Daniel Fowles also of Threapwood with an assault on 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Complainant said on Tuesday last himself and defendant were quiting with a man named James Groom. After a time they commenced to quarrel when defendant struck him. This took place at Mr Brood's (Broad?) of Threapwood. Witness admitted having had some drink but said the defendant was drunk. They were there from eleven in the morning to between six and seven at night. Defendant pleaded not guilty. They had been playing quoits in a field. Charles Higgins of Threapwood, Mrs Sarah Broods (?) wife of Henry Broods (?) landlady of the Holy Land of Threapwood and Charles Mountford, brother of the defendant, all gave evidence. It was said that both men had been before the bench before. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and 18s 6d costs, or 14 days.

1/10/1881 Threapwood Church of England Temperance Society a meeting of the Threapwood and Tallarn Green branches of the above took place at Threapwood Schoolroom. The Rev T Cox, Vicar of Threapwood took the chair, 150 to 200 were present. Among the musical contributors was Miss Cox of Threapwood.

2/12/1881 Broxton Petty Sessions – assault. Thomas Mountford aged 20, labourer of Threapwood, was charged by Joseph Davies, brick maker of Malpas, with assaulting him at Threapwood on 24<sup>th</sup> October. (Apparently the assault started in Flintshire and carried on into Cheshire. The chairman of the bench J H Leche said they did not allow these things in Cheshire and sentenced him to and labour for a month).

3/12/1881 Charge of Permitting Drunkenness – Edward Broad, Landlord of the Holy Land public house, Threapwood, was charged with this offence but the case was dismissed. Also withdrawn was a charge against George Mountford for being drunk on the licensed premises.

4/2/1882 Broxton Petty Sessions – Deficient Weights. Edward Broad who is owner of the Holy Land public house, Threapwood and also keeps a shop was charged with having deficient weights in his possession. Superintendent Platt, inspector of weights & measures said that he visited defendant's shop and found a 7lb weight 14 oz too light and another 7lb weight 2 drachms light. There were also 2lbs weights unstamped – defendant was fined 20s and costs.

25/3/1882 a gathering of the Church of England Temperance Society took place at the School Room, Threapwood, under the presidency of the Rev. Thomas Cox; vicar who read an excellent paper entitled 'Three Sheets in the Wind'

1/4/1882 John Carr, cattle dealer, Threapwood, was summoned for having a dog without a licence. Fined 10s and 8s 6d costs. The same man was then charged with cruelly ill treating a mare. Fined 20s and 10s 6d costs and in default, one month's imprisonment with hard labour. The fine was paid.

1/7/1882 Broxton Petty Sessions – Joseph Jackson, a middle aged man from Threapwood, was charged with committing an assault upon Amy Wynne, a girl of 14, at Threapwood. Complainant said she lived at Oldcastle with her uncle and grandmother. One day the defendant came into the house uninvited and sat down. He asked the girl for a kiss but she refused. He then took hold of her dress and tried to indecently assault her. The girl's grandmother, an invalid, intervened and the defendant ceased the assault. He was fined 20s and costs, or 7 days in prison.

22/7/1882 Threapwood Congregational Sunday School pupils joined with those from Malpas for their annual treat and party. They were taken by wagon and other vehicles to Beeston Castle, placed at their disposal by Lord Tollemache.

2/9/1882 Worthenbury & Threapwood Floral & Horticultural Society Annual Show took place at Broughton Park under the patronage of Robert Howard. Other patrons were Harold Lees, T W T Drake, Rev C W Cox, Malpas, Rev T Cox, Threapwood, Rev T H Puleston, Rev W H Trower, Rev C Bolden etc. This year some sports which caused a considerable amount of amusement were held (these included a 120 yards flat race for men, won by William Roberts of Worthenbury, who also won 5s, a Donkey Race, won by A Broad, Chorlton Hall, a Boys flat race, High Jump, Long Jump, Tug of War, (8 men a side) the winners of which were George Mountfords' side over William Roberts' side, the winners receiving 10s. There was also a Sack Race, a Beaten Donkey race and a half-mile race for working men, won by A Peake, Holt, who won 4s. An excellent dinner was provided by Mr Kelsall.

4/11/1882 Threapwood Schoolroom staged an entertainment by the Church of England Temperance Society. Contributors included the Rev T Cox, the Threapwood Glee Union, under the direction of Miss Cox, also Miss A Richards and Mr C Richards.

22/2/1883 Broxton Police Court. Before J H Leche, Walter Wynne, a prize fighter and a native of Threapwood, who was residing in Whitchurch for some time back, was brought up under a warrant charged by Police Constable Smith of Handley with assaulting him while in the execution of his duty. Mr Leche committed the defendant to Chester Castle for one month hard labour.

4/8/1883 Assault case at Threapwood, Samuel Corbett, a young man, a farm labourer, was summoned by Elizabeth Roycroft for assaulting her at Threapwood. Complainant said defendant came to her house, pulled her out of the house by the hair of the head and threw her down on the ground and after she got up, he hit her again. She got a rope to fasten the door; he took the rope from her and hit her over the head with it. Defendant denied the charge but said complainant had been calling his wife names. He was fined 10s and costs 11s 6d in default 7 days.

2/2/1884 Broxton Petty Sessions, Ellis Hall, a youth from Threapwood, was summoned by P C Proudlove for being drunk in the public street at Malpas. Defendant pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay the costs 4s 6d.

31/5/1884 Broxton Petty Sessions. Margaret Simmons and Hannah Corbett, living at Threapwood were summoned for damage a fence to the amount of 1s, on land in the occupation of George Lewis, Bank Farm, Cuddington. The women were seen by Alfred Davies, one of Mrs Lewis's men, taking the sticks out of the hedge. The defendants pleaded guilty and were ordered to pay the costs.

28/6/1884 Broxton Petty Sessions. Samuel Beresford, dealer, Threapwood, was summoned for being drunk on the highway at Hampton. He had wanted to fight everyone who came near. He did not appear and a warrant was issued against him.

1/11/1884 Auction Sales. Threapwood Vicarage, 3 ½ miles from Malpas Stations on the Chester Whitchurch Railway. Cooper and Son have been honoured with instructions from the Rev T Cox who is changing his residence, to sell by auction on Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup> 1884 on his premises as above at 12 o'clock, chestnut hack or harness mare, dapple cream cob pony, double-seated trap, phaton, bath chair, 2 sets of harness saddlery, about 7 tons of hay, to go off; 40 tons manure, out door effects, dairy utensils and part of the household and bedroom furniture, antique china etc. Catalogues may be had seven day prior to the sale from the Auctioneers, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

1/11/1884 At Broxton Petty Sessions, Thomas Moor, gamekeeper to Mr R Howard, Broughton Hall was summoned by Edward Broad, assistant overseer for Threapwood for refusing to pay poor rates of 10s 1 ½ d. the case was dismissed on the grounds that defendant had not received his 'notice of appeal' which had in fact been posed on the church door.

At the same session, Robert Downs was summoned by Edward Broad, landlord of the Holy Land public house with wilfully damaging his windows and chairs and other property. The defendant, who was a farmer's son, had objected because Broad would not serve him any more drink. He was discharged on condition that he paid for the damage and also the court costs. It was his first time in a police court in his life, he claimed. However, the same defendant was brought up on a charge of assaulting a pig dealer named Carr at Threapwood. Carr said he was driving home when the defendant came to the shandry and pulled him out and threatened to kill him. Defendant was fined £1 and the fine was paid at once by the defendant's father.

31/1/1885 Broxton Petty Session, John Carr, pig dealer, Threapwood, was summoned for being drunk in charge of a horse and shandry. He pleaded guilty and was fined £1 and costs.

31/1/1885 Deaths – Green 28<sup>th</sup> inst at Threapwood, Elizabeth, wife of Mr George Green, aged 26 years.

7/3/1885 The Rev Charles William Cox has died. He had been Rector of the Lower Mediety of Malpas for over 22 years. He came from Croxton, Lincolnshire where he had been Rector for a number of years. He had been ill for some months and unable to fulfil his duties. He was a former member of the Whitchurch Board of Guardians and chairman of the Malpas Burial Board. He was born on 2/12/1829 and died on 27/2/1885.

29/8/1885 Worthenbury & Threapwood Floral & Horticultural Show. Several new features were added this year, including: - a prize for the best cheese, given by Mr John Howard of Broughton Hall, won by Mrs Clutton of Bowen's Hall, Hanmer, who received £1.10s; best honey taken without destroying the bees, given by the Hon Henrietta Kenyon, won by Mrs Roberts, Rose Cottage, Chorlton; the best dish of boiled potatoes, given by Mrs Howard, won by Mrs C Fowles, Threapwood. The Hon. Georgina Kenyon gave prizes for the best made man's shirt in unbleached calico, for girls over 10 years of age, won by Jane Hughes, Shocklach, who won 5s.

9/1/1886 Deaths – Ralphs – 7<sup>th</sup> inst, at Threapwood, Alfred, son of Mr Charles Ralphs, aged 4 years.

7/8/1886 The Executors of the late John Battarbee were selling furniture at Threapwood.

7/8/1886 At Mr Hassall's, The Queen's Head Inn, Sarn Bridge, Cooper & Son were selling the dwelling house called Rock Cottage, with two gardens, late in the occupation of Mrs Battarbee, deceased. Particulars could be obtained from, among other, Mr Beckett, Brook Farm, Willington.

25/6/1886 Mr Nugent Howard, youngest son of Robert Howard, returned to Broughton Hall amid much rejoicing. He has for some time past been on an expedition to Australia. As he arrived from Malpas Station, he was met outside the park, the horses were taken from his carriage and he was drawn to the front of the hall by a committee formed to welcome him, including Thomas Cook senior, Broughton, Levi Huxley, Worthenbury, Thomas Skelland, Threapwood, J Houlbrook, Broughton, P Rathbone, Worthenbury and Edward Morris, Worthenbury. There was a tent in the park, tea was served and the Whitchurch Brass Band played. Nugent showed everyone some of the curios he had brought from Australia, including photos of the native women and war implements, tomahawks etc.

26/3/1887 At Whitchurch County Court, John Carr, Threapwood, cattle dealer v Thos Downes, Halghton Hall, waggoner. Carr claimed £1 5s for the value of a pig sold to Downes who admitted receiving the pig but said it was only worth £1. It had not been a good one; he had not wanted it and had sold it on for a sovereign because Carr would not take it back. Judgement was given to Downes with costs.

The same John Carr v Jos Bevan, Threapwood, paviour. Carr claimed £2 from Bevan. There had been a bet on a trotting match which had never taken place. Carr said the bet was for £5, which amount he had staked with Bevan. But later Bevan would only return the sum of £3, saying that had been the amount staked. Both Carr and Bevan had 'had a lot of drink together' that day. Judgement was given to Carr.

25/6/1887 The inhabitants of the parishes of Worthenbury and Threapwood celebrated the Jubilee at Worthenbury on Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. The village was gaily decorated for the occasion, flags being displayed at almost every house. About 3pm the people formed themselves into a procession and, headed by the Whitchurch Rifle Corps band, marched to the church. Returning to the field, kindly lent by the Rector, nearly 600 parishioners sat down to an excellent meat tea, provided by Mr and Mrs Jones of the Emral Arms. In addition to the customary dancing and sports, amusement was afforded by a band of jugglers and minstrels engaged by the Rev. T H G Puleston. (There were then sports, judged by Mr Broad of Threapwood and Mr Fernal of Royton, including obstacle races, boys and men's races, an old men's race, and a tug o war. Mr Levi Huxley proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Puleston and Mr Howard 'to whose generosity it was mainly owing that so large a number of people had been able to enjoy the festivities' The National Anthem concluded the day's proceedings.

30/7/1887 Broxton Petty Sessions. Thomas Hall who was represented by his wife, was summoned for allowing 3 cows to stray on the road at Threapwood – P C Cuddington, who proved the case, said that he was continually getting complaints in the neighbourhood about these cows on the side of the road – Defendant was ordered to pay the costs.

3/9/1887 Broxton Petty Sessions. It was reported that cases of drunkenness had decreased in the previous year. John Hall, Threapwood, was charged with assaulting Margaret Simmons by striking her on the breast and arm. He was fined 5s & costs. Joseph Bevan, carrier, was summoned by Charles Higgins, pensioner, for assault at Threapwood. Defendant admitted the assault, saying he was only paying back the complainant for his behaviour on a previous occasion when he drank 5 pints of beer that he (defendant) had paid for and then knocked him over. Fined £1 & costs. Defendant asked for time to pay but was refused owing to his insolent behaviour in court.



1/10/1887 The children from Worthenbury, Shocklach & Threapwood schools were entertained for their annual treat by Mr and Mrs Howard at Broughton Hall. Tables were set up on the lawn, where 200 took tea, followed by games. Later each child was presented with a cup 'chastely ornamented with portraits of the Queen, 1837-1887'

28/1/1888 A Ball was held in Threapwood School on Tuesday last. Mr Rogers of Whitchurch supplied the music and gave great satisfaction 'Dancing lasted from 8pm – 3am. The proceeds were about £12 to be used for expenses in repairing the school'

31/3/1888 At Broxton Petty Sessions, the following overseers were appointed: Threapwood – John Henry Hinton & George Metcalfe; Wychough – Thomas Roberts & John Jones; Oldcastle – Thomas Mullock & William Harris; Agden – John Johnson & George Bostock; Wigland – Jane Jones & James Taylor; Stockton – Alfred Davies.

21/4/1888 The Rev G Belchamber was said that the ratepayers of Threapwood do not wish to remain with the Wrexham Union as at present, preferring instead to be united with Malpas Contributory Union.

30/6/1888 Broxton Petty Sessions, Joseph Bevan, paviour, Trevor, was summoned by a road labourer named Daniel Fowles, for permitting his dog to be at large at Threapwood – complainant said that the animal caught hold of his leg and he had some difficulty in driving it off – Defendant was fined 2s 6d & costs.

Thomas Hall, labourer, Threapwood, was summoned by Daniel Fowles, a neighbour, for allowing three cows to stray on the highway and was fined 2s 6d & costs.

30/6/1888 William Hilton, labourer, Threapwood was summoned by P C Eaton for letting his pony stray on the highway and as this was his first offence and he seemed a hard working respectable man, he was let off on paying costs.

25/8/1888 The Boundary Commission have recommended the formation of an entirely new Union to be called the Malpas Union in Cheshire. They reported great difficulty in dealing with the overlapping area of the Whitchurch Union comprising 25 parishes, 2 in Shropshire and 1 in Flintshire. They had looked at the Maelor Hundred of Flintshire and found it to have no Welsh speaking inhabitants and a great preponderance of opinion wishing to be transferred to Salop. The whole district, except Threapwood, Bangor and Worthenbury (which are in Wrexham Union) is in Whitchurch Union. Iscoyd is part of Maelor. However, it was found that Malpas was the desirable centre for the new Union. The recommendations of the Commissioners included: - (a) Iscoyd, Flintshire, to remain in Whitchurch Union. (b) Tybroughton and Willington, both in Flintshire, to be transferred to Salop and from Ellesmere Union to Whitchurch Union, (c) Agden, Oldcastle, Stockton, Wigland and Wychough, at present in the County of Chester, moved from Whitchurch Union to Union of Malpas, (d) All of Threapwood be moved from Wrexham Union to Malpas and to be in Chester County, including the portion at present in Flintshire.

20/10/1888 Thomas Fowles of Threapwood was changing his residence and selling farm stock etc.

27/10/1888 The Jubilee Clock & Turret at Tallarn Green church were opened on Monday last, the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church 'Lord Kenyon started the clock to go' Among those present were the Rural Dean, the Rev M McGillie of Bangor, Rev Canon Lee, Vicar of Hanmer, Rev T H Puleston, Rector of Worthenbury, Rev G Bellchamber, Vicar of Threapwood, Rev J Jacob, Rector of Whitewell, Rev E Hicks, Curate of Tallarn, Rev F Roberts, Curate of Worthenbury and others. The clock was supplied by Messrs Joyce & Co of Whitchurch. A vote of thanks was moved to the churchwarden, Mr Huntbach for promoting the object and also to the Hon Miss Kenyon for her kindness in providing a new schoolroom.

5/1/1889 Broxton Petty Sessions. The Yeast Adulteration Problem still unsolved. Edward Broad, a Threapwood shopkeeper, attended in response to a summons accusing him of vending adulterated German yeast - P S Johnson bought 3oz of German yeast from the defendant. Supt Downes sent it for analysis to the County Analyst (Mr Carter Bell) who reported that the sample was adulterated with 20 per cent starch. (The case was dismissed because, since it was sold as German yeast, the starch could not be regarded as an adulteration)

23/3/1889 Threapwood. We are sorry to record the decease of the Rev. Mr Bellchamber incumbent of Threapwood, which took place at Threapwood on Monday morning last, from a complication of complaints. The deceased gentleman was only 36 years of age.

30/3/1889 A fatal traction engine accident occurred at the Sarn on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> inst to Charles Higgins, aged 51. An inquest was held next day at the Queen's Head before J Pay, Coroner. Mr Burrows was foreman of the jury. The machine belonged to Mr Suckley; John V Jenkins was driving the machine. He said he was going at 3 ½ miles an hour and deceased was acting as signalman, 15 yards in front. They were slowed going from Broughton Lodge to Bryn. The deceased had signalled danger and he had slowed the machine down, but for some obscure reason had not stopped it completely and it ran over the deceased. It was said that deceased had been drinking rum in the Queen's Head. Other witnesses said he was known to drink heavily. Jenkins confessed that he knew nothing of the requirements of the Locomotive Act governing the movement of traction engines. The following was the verdict:- 'That the deceased, Charles Higgins was accidentally killed by a traction engine passing over his body, he being signalman at the time, owing to the driver not knowing the regulations of the Locomotive Acts 1861 to 1878. We further say that grave negligence is attached to the driver, John Vaughan Jenkins and we wish the coroner to severely censure him.' This was done.

30/3/1889 At Broxton Petty Sessions, the following Overseers were appointed: - Agden – Robert Neville Johnson & George Bostock; Oldcastle – William Harris & Jane Downes; Stockton – Alfred Davies; Threapwood – Theophilus Jones & Walter Hulmes; Wychough – John Jones & Thomas Roberts; Wigland – James Taylor & Eliza Evans.

8<sup>th</sup> June 1889 Threapwood School Inspector. The school was examined on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> by T Morgan Owen M A and Mrs Edward Morris B A of Rhyl. On June 4<sup>th</sup> the following report received; - 'This is a model country school. I was particularly pleased with the improvements' The percentage of passes was 98.58 and the 'Excellent' merit grant was awarded, reflecting great credit on Miss Gregory and the teachers. The amount of grant was £58 11s 8d.

28/9/1889 Auction Sale: Freehold land, watermill, house and cottage know as 'Dymocks Mill' situate in Willington. Area 23 acres and now let to Mr David Williams as yearly tenant. This property will shortly be offered for sale by public auction. For further particulars apply to the owner, Mr T H Kershaw, Dodington, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

3/5/1890 There was a fire at Kerrison Villa, Threapwood, the residence of Mr G Duster Mountford. It started in the kitchen while Mr G D Mountford was not at home. The fire brigade was brought from Malpas but considerable damage was done. The property was not insured.

26/7/1890 Broxton Petty Sessions. Thomas Mountford, labourer, Threapwood, a discharged soldier from 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, was charged with assaulting William Simmons of Threapwood. The complainant, who appeared with his face badly knocked and cut, said the defendant had threatened to kill him. Mountford was sent for 2 months hard labour because he had resisted arrest when PC Hunt and PC Pym had gone to Worthenbury to fetch him.

4/10/1890 Broxton Petty Sessions. Thomas Mountford, Threapwood was summoned for assaulting an old man, John Dorr. He was said to have caught hold of him, knocked him down, struck him, on the face and kicked him in the ribs. Defendant was sent to prison for one calendar month.

29/8/1891 Broxton Petty Sessions Brewster Sessions. William Burrows and Samuel Ralph Hall, both of Threapwood, objected to the renewal of the licence of the Holy Lane Inn, Threapwood. Landlord Edward Broad did not appear. The Objection was on the grounds that the house is unnecessary in the neighbourhood. They said it had seemed to have been closed for 2 years anyway and no one had been heard to complain about that fact. It was thought that Broad did not wish to renew the licence. The licence was therefore refused.

20/2/1892 Cooper & Son was selling by auction farm stock & furniture at Dog Lane Farm, Oldcastle by order of the executors of the late Mrs Jane Downes.

18/5/1892 Whitchurch County Court. Robert Howard JP, Broughton Hall v John Carr, Threapwood, butcher & cattle dealer. This was an action to recover £19 15s 6d for damages to a house and buildings belonging to plaintiff, loss of rent and damages sustained because defendant refused to give up possession of the house and other claims. Mr Howard had bought a house in December 1890 from Mr Leche of Carden, Carr being the tenant. He straight away gave Carr notice to quit but Carr did not go by the required date because he believed that the terms of his tenancy allowed him to stay on until a later date. Howard obtained an ejectment order and Carr was forced to leave. When he had gone it was discovered that he had done a great deal of damage to the place, deliberately it was claimed. He had been using part of the house as a slaughter house. The cottage was pulled down. The judge allowed only part of the claim to be paid.

2/7/1892 Broxton Petty Sessions. Before Messrs J H Leche, W G Crum and the Rev C Wolley-Dod, Thomas Roberts, bricklayer, Threapwood, summoned Charles Lloyd and John Diggory, also of Threapwood for assault. It happened inside a public house at Sarn and afterwards in the lanes outside. The bench decided that there had been provocation on both sides and ordered each party to pay their own costs.

29/10/1892 Broxton Petty Sessions. Joseph Mountford, Threapwood, summoned John Carr, Threapwood for being drunk and disorderly. A lot of stones had been thrown and there was a cross summons for assault. The Bench dismissed both cases, saying there had been some very hard swearing in this case. John Carr senior, drover, Threapwood, summoned Ellen Mountford for assaulting him by throwing a big stone at him. Fined 1s and costs. The chairman, J H Leche, said it seemed to be a family row.

11/2/1893 Overton Petty Sessions. Levi Manford of Threapwood was charged on remand with stealing a ferret from Mr Henry Richards, grocer, Bangor is y Coed. The prisoner was discharged with caution.

25/3/1893 Deaths. Matthews – 11<sup>th</sup> inst at The Cottage, Threapwood, Williams Matthews, aged 73. For 35 years gardener to Mr Howard, Broughton Hall.

22/4/1893 Candidates from Worthenbury and Threapwood, amongst others, were presented to the Bishop of St Asaph at Bangor Parish Church for confirmation.

29/4/1893 Broxton Petty Sessions. Joseph Hall, labourer, Threapwood, was summoned for assaulting Sarah Heath, farm servant, in Threapwood Lane, when he threw her into a ditch and held her. He was sentenced to 7 days with hard labour.

2/9/1893 Broxton Petty Sessions. Samuel Barnett & Joseph Barnett, Threapwood, were charged with stealing coal, value 1s, the property of Mr Edward Broad, brick and tile manufacturer, Oldcastle. The weight of the coal was 85lb. The defendants pleaded not guilty and were committed for trial to the Sessions.

9/9/1893 The picturesque estate of Broughton Park, the seat of Mr Robert Howard, was the rendezvous of the annual exhibition of the old established floral & horticultural society of Worthenbury & Threapwood. Although held in Wales, the gathering is extremely popular with neighbouring farmers and cottagers of that part of Cheshire near, and many of the prizes went to Cheshire yeomen hailing from Shocklach, Chorlton, Malpas and Threapwood. The entries were only open to members of the society and cottagers in the district, the latter to be tenant occupiers who are labourers or mechanics in receipt of weekly wages. Mr S R Hall is secretary, his assistant is Mr W R Urmston and Mr J Houlbrooke is treasurer.

23/6/1894 The cottage at Threapwood occupied by Mr Edward Beckett was knocked down to Mr Williams, Tybroughton for £200.

23/2/1895 At 2 o'clock on Thursday morning a fire which eventually proved to be a most disastrous one was discovered in the Sarn Mill, about 3 ½ miles from Malpas and owned by Mr Edward Broad of Threapwood, whose son was sleeping in the mill upon this night. We learn that the fire originated through some live coals falling out of the fire grate on to the mill floor in close proximity to some sacks, which caught fire and before the discovery was made, the flames had extended and got firm hold of the dry seasoned woodwork of the mill; and before Mr Philip Broad, who looks after the mill could obtain help, the place was gutted, the roof falling in within half an hour after the outbreak. The new portion of the mill in which, during the last summer, Mr Broad had erected a steam boiler, was saved with great effort by the help assembled; but it was considered useless to send for the Malpas fire Engine and it being too great a distance for any other engine, none was sent for and the fire consequently burnt itself out. The damage to the mill, including the large quantity of corn that it contained, is estimated at little short of £2,000 and as neither the mill nor its contents were insured the loss falls heavily upon its owner.

23/2/1895 Frank Lloyd, instructed by Mrs Overton (retiring from housekeeping) was selling farm stock etc at the Villa, Threapwood.

16/3/1895 Broxton Petty Sessions. Robert Jones, cowman, Threapwood was summoned by Williams Hough, farmer, Oldcastle, who claimed £10 for damage through defendant wrongfully leaving his service. Defendant was said to have left, enticing away also two girls, who, however, returned later. The waggoner had been forced to do defendant's work and another man had also been employed at 15s a week. Defendant had been engaged at £15, had earned £3 and drawn £1. The Bench ordered defendant to pay costs, 9s 6d and to forfeit the £2 due to him. He had not the money to pay the costs however, and was taken into custody.

28/9/1895 Auction Sale. Dymock's Mill, Flintshire. Mr H H Etches has been instructed by Mr James Woodhall, who is giving up the milling business, to sell by auction on the premises on Monday October 14 1895, 11 dairy cattle, heifer, grey mare, 12 pigs, hay, implements, dairy vessels, furniture etc.

15/2/1896 Worthenbury. Last week, before the Overton Magistrates, Samuel Beresford, cattle dealer from Threapwood was charged with assaulting John Humphreys of Worthenbury. Some two years ago, prisoner was charged with a similar offence against the complainant who, from that time has lost the use of an eye and for which prisoner suffered imprisonment. Complainant who was led into the witness box owing to his other eye being damaged, stated that he was standing in Worthenbury on Friday when prisoner, without any provocation, brutally assaulted him and threatened to deprive him of the use of his other eye. The Bench sentenced prisoner to two months' hard labour for the assault and bound him over in the sum of £20 to keep the peace for 12 months for using threatening language.

18/7/1896 Anniversary services for the Threapwood Congregational Church were held. There was a tea on Monday at Mr Hobson's the Wood Farm. Addresses at the service that followed the tea were given by the Rev J Morgan, Rev C Musk and Mrs G S Morgan.

5/9/1896 Samuel Beresford, butcher and pig dealer, Threapwood was charged with obtaining £4 16s from Charles Capper of Willington by false pretences. Beresford had asked Capper to change a cheque for him. When the latter tried to cash it at Whitchurch bank, he was told that the defendant had no account. When challenged about this, defendant told Capper to try to cash it at Oswestry but the latter reported the matter to the police instead. Earlier, defendant had tried to cash the cheque with Richard Thomas of the Hanmer Arms but he had refused as he had been caught out before. The cheque had actually been taken from a cheque book belonging to a Thomas Gough, another pig dealer, who should have appeared in court as a witness but failed to turn up. A warrant was issued for his arrest and Beresford was sent for trial at the Quarter Sessions.

19/9/1896 Messrs Churton, Elphick & Co were selling by auction at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester, the Freehold Estate, comprising the 'Oldcastle', Greaves', 'Topwood', 'Dog Lane' and other farms, with homesteads, land etc, being more than 629 acres, also the valuable water corn mill and with three pairs of stones and fittings and the Brick Yard with working plant, all at Oldcastle. Mr Henry Bebbington was showing the Lots, 15 in number. It was all let to responsible and improving tenants. Particulars could be obtained from R E Birch, FSI, Maes Elwy, St Asaph and others.

28/11/1896 Broxton Petty Sessions. Joseph Manford, Threapwood was charged with unlawfully ill treating his wife, Mary Ann Manford, He was a labourer and had been drinking heavily and brought another man home with him and a bottle of whisky. Later he struck his wife after a discussion over buying bread for their children. He was sent to prison for 2 months. The wife was granted a judicial separation and he was ordered to pay 6s per week towards the maintenance of the four children.

21/1/1897 On Tuesday night a very successful lantern entertainment was given in the Congregational Church (Threapwood) by the pastor, the Reg G O Morgan, assisted by Mr Huxley of Malpas.

23/1/1897 Threapwood. There was a Band of Hope meeting in the Congregational chapel. The chair was occupied by Mr W H Hobson.

23/1/1897 Malpas R D C. A nuisance was reported i.e. all the sewage and excrement from the Queen's Head, Threapwood, owned by Mr G Williamson, Chester and tenanted by Mr W Hulme, goes direct into the Wych Brook. Also 3 cottages at Sarn, owned by Mrs Grocott, Moreton, had 2 common privies, with defective tanks, there being no proper drainage. The owners were to be informed and told to put matters right within one month.

20/3/1897 Malpas R D C, Cheshire County Council have offered to take over the road from Broughton Hall to Sarn Bridge, on condition that Malpas R D C contribute £100 towards putting it into a satisfactory state of repair. This was agreed to.

24/4/1897 Malpas R D C. The Sanitary Inspector, Mr T T Chubb, reported that Threapwood School had 2 common privies with defective tanks and no urinal for boys. Similarly, at several other Threapwood cottages, there were defective receptacles to common privy or no receptacle to common privy. At a cottage in Threapwood tenanted by John Carr Junior and owned by Thomas Huxley, Kidnal, there was a defective tank to privy and pigs and calves were being slaughtered in an old wooden shed totally unfit for the work.

19/6/1897 Threapwood Postal Facilities. A new sub Post Office has been opened at Cheshire Cottage, Threapwood, where postal orders may be obtained and parcels taken in and posted. This will be a great boon to the thickly populated district around Threapwood and Broughton. It is said on good authority that in due course the office will be made into a telegraph office.

10/7/1897 Broughton Jubilee Festivities, Mr Robert Howard lent Broughton Park to the parishioners of Shocklach, Threapwood & Worthenbury. He also gave £40, added to by Mr C W Bailey of Worthenbury and Mr T T Drake of Shardloes. Decorative arches were created and Union Jacks flew from the tops of the highest trees, 'Where they are to stay till they fall' Fairy lamps were used in the evening and guns were fired throughout the day, while hobby horses, swings, punch & judy etc were on the grounds. The children of the parish schools walked to the West Lodge, where they were headed by the Wrexham Borough Brass Band and marched up the drive to the front of the hall, where they were received by the 'genial old Squire with his wife and family'. Mr Nugent and the Misses Mary and Elizabeth Howard, The Rev Mr Ellis, Threapwood, read the thanksgiving prayer for the Queen and then the Squire gave an address, concentrating mainly on morals and the temperance movement. After three cheers for the Queen and the National Anthem, photographs were taken of the assembly. There were medals and cups. Mr Salmon of Farndon contributed two sieves of strawberries, 2,000 people were there and dancing followed. Among those present was Charles Richards, in his 99<sup>th</sup> year, who remembered the Jubilee of George 111.

24/7/1897 Malpas R D C. The Sanitary Inspector reported that there was a case of erysipelas in Threapwood, the source of which could not be traced. There were nuisances at Threapwood i.e. defective sanitation at Mr T Ledsham's cottage, tenanted by Mr James Mort. No tank to privy at a cottage owned by G Karrison. No proper tank and no slaughter house where calves are slaughtered at a cottage owned by Mr Payne of Crabtree and tenanted by George Beresford. Also defective privy at a house tenanted by Betsy Lloyd.

The Clerk said he found that Threapwood was the only parish that had not paid its contribution and the amount of outrelief given was double what could be claimed in return.

The Clerk was instructed to write informing the Assistant Overseer that unless he paid up he would be summoned. The Chairman said 'It is a very poor place; still, it must pay.'

31/7/1897 Broxton Petty Sessions. Thomas Hall, labourer, Threapwood was charged with assaulting Richard Wynn, bicksetter, Threapwood. Wynn was also charged with assaulting Hall. Wynn's wife had told him that Hall's ducks had been in their garden again. He went out and found Hall coming to him with a bill hook and wanting to fight, but Wynn refused as Hall did not fight fair. He was then hit with the bill hook and remembered no more. Mrs Margaret Wynn said Hall attacked her husband, who was not drunk, but had had a little drink. The Chairman J H Leche asked if she had ever regretted her marriage. She said, only once, when he was drunk. There were other witnesses for both parties, who were both ordered to pay their own costs and were both bound over in £10 each to keep the peace for 6 months.

16/10/1897 Threapwood Harvest Festival. The Rector of Worthenbury, the Rev F H P Galway B A preached in the morning. In the afternoon the Rev R H Mayn B A of Tallarn Green, preached. Among the ladies who decorated the church was Mrs Ellis The Vicarage.

20/11/1897 Malpas R D C River Pollution. In Threapwood was a hamlet of about a dozen houses built on one bank of the Wych Brook. The bank is steep and the houses close to the water. The slops, the drainage of pig sties and much of the house refuse goes direct into the brook. Some very filthy cess pool privies are so near the running water that soakage there from probably pollutes it. The most marked instance of direct pollution of the stream from human excrement was noted at a public house at one end of this group of dwellings. When inspected, this public house was full of customers and on a rocky slope in the rear, which formed the yard, was the privy provided for the accommodation of the tenant and his guests. Under the set was an inclined plane and the faecal matter and urine were thus conveyed into the water of the Wych Brook, 2 or 3 yards below.

20/11/1897 The new Post Office at Threapwood has been made into a telegraph office.

5/2/1898 Threapwood. Mrs W H Hobson, Wood Farm, Broughton, has died. She was a member of Threapwood Congregational Church. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev H Ogmores Morgans, pastor of Malpas & Threapwood Congregational churches.

4/6/1898 Broxton Petty Sessions. John Davies, Tallarn Green was fined costs for failing to have a light on a trap.

Edward Broad, grocer, Threapwood, was fined £1 plus costs for selling a 4lb loaf at 6d, being 5 ounces under weight. He was represented by his son, who said that his father had been in the business 55 years and did not know a loaf was supposed to be 4lb in weight. As far as he and his customers were concerned, they were 6d loaves and he altered the weight up and down in inverse proportion to the price of flour.

3/9/1898 Broxton Petty Sessions. John Carr, Threapwood, was summoned for non payment of poor rates. The Bench granted an order for the rate, plus 12s 6d costs.

1/10/1898 There was a concert at Threapwood School, president Mr W H Hobson, Wood Farm. The Schoolmistress is Mrs Goodfellow.

15/10/1898 Malpas R D C brought an action at Wrexham County Court, restraining George Williamson, brewer, Mollington from polluting the Wych Brook and praying for a penalty of £50 per day if the pollution continued. The defendant neither appeared nor was he represented. He owned the Queens Head Inn at the Sarn. He had had ample time to rectify the pollution since it was first notified to him. He had been told to stop keeping pigs as well as to abate the sewage nuisance from the privy. A plan had been prepared to provide a cess pit and filter which would cost £15. The judge granted the order for the work to be done within 2 months, after which the £50 a day penalty would be payable. Defendant was also to be responsible for the costs of the hearing, plans etc.

29/10/1898 Broxton Petty Sessions. John Carr junior, butcher, Threapwood was charged with using obscene language at Oldcastle. He was fined 20s & costs. He was also charged with assault for which he was given 1 month with hard labour. It all happened on a Sunday, when he had gone to Thomas Jones place to collect some pigs he was supposed to buy but Jones had refused to deal with him, presumably because it was the Sabbath. John Carr was also fined 5s plus 8s 6d costs for breach of the lamp clause on the same day.

12/11/1898 Malpas R D C. Scarlet Fever. The medical Officer has written to the managers of the Threapwood School, advising them to close it down and this has been done for a period of 2 weeks. It had been partly disinfected but had not yet been lime washed.

10/12/1898 Threapwood. The first social evening of the season was held under the auspices of the Congregational Endeavour Society. There were recitations and addresses by: Mr Lea, Graves Farm, Mrs Frances Moore, Mrs Winward, Mr W Lea, Mr J L Hopley, Mr F Jackson, Mr James Gregory, Mr W H Hobson and the Rev J Ogmores Morgans.

31/12/1898 Broxton Petty Sessions. Thomas Hall Threapwood was charged with assaulting his brother, Harry with a stick and by knocking him into a ditch. He was fined 5s & costs 9s 6d.

4/1/1899 Malpas R D C. The drainage at the Queen's Head, Sarn have been completed satisfactorily.

4/1/1899 The Pastor of Threapwood Congregational Sunday School, Rev Ogmores Morgans, preached at the annual prize distribution. Edward Broad, one of the deacons and an old and faithful friend of the cause, handed out the prizes. The school is managed by Mr T Roberts, assisted by Mr James Gregory and is in a flourishing state.

24/6/1899 The Pastor of Threapwood Congregational Church, the Rev Ogmores Morgans has recently been married.

15/7/1899 Malpas R D C. It was reported that there was a great scarcity of water at Threapwood and closets at several cottages were dilapidated and unsatisfactory. That occupied by Thomas Hall was in a somewhat ruinous state. There was a great crack in the gable and the chimney looked like falling at any moment. This cottage was one of two under the same roof. The other was in a still worse condition. The premises were a nuisance, injurious to health and unfit for habitation. The cottage lately occupied by John Leech was now empty and could not be occupied until a new window was provided for the bedroom. The council would write to Mr Jones of the Quinta, owner of Thomas Hall's cottage, telling him to get the necessary work done in one month.

12/8/1899 Worthenbury & Threapwood Horticultural Society was advertising their annual flower show for Friday August 18<sup>th</sup> at the ancient and historic mansion of Emral Hall, by kind permission of Lady Puleston. Admission was 1s. After 6pm 6d. Splendid lawn, illuminated in the evening with Chinese lanterns.

14/10/1899 To the Editor, Sir – The reason why the manufacture of salt was discontinued in these villages (Higher Wych & Lower Wyches) was a keen and unequal competition with the salt manufacturers of Mid Cheshire, in the early history of which the late Rev. Cannon Lee writes: ‘The competition between them would be equal if the roads in that part would be much like our own’ The same gentleman states that the salt made here was taken to Shrewsbury and other places on the backs of pack horses and that it was carried through Loppington (600 years ago) along a road that is called Salt Lane down to our own time. There is no doubt that salt would be a dear article in Mid Cheshire as well as here, that district being as far from a coalfield as our own and no better means of transit for hundreds of years. But the last two centuries have reversed the order of many things. It has been so with the salt trade. A navigable river, canals and railways have opened up in that district a trade in salt second to none in England, while the coal had to be carted here in summer, to last through the winter and at nearly double the price paid in Cheshire. Though the price of coal was as low as 3s and 3s 6d the ton at the pits mouth, it cost 15s the ton put down at Lower Wych. The salt of Mid Cheshire could be sold in our own village at 1s 3d per bushel, while my father could not afford to sell salt for less than 1s 6d per bushel. Thus it will be perceived how the salt trade here came to an end. As to the quality of the salt made here, it was of the best quality that could be procured in those days and for cheese, I suppose it could not be equalled – so those people say that are old enough to remember it being used for that purpose. And among its other properties, a Whitchurch doctor used to say it was worth a guinea a bushel for medical purposes; the brine being impregnated with other substances besides salt. One substance much in evidence is sulphur. During the last 50 years there have been several plans proposed for turning these brine wells to profitable use again. Some have proposed to make brine baths, while other have come from salt districts with the intention of building new salt works, but all plans have fallen through for the want of means of transit – yours etc Ellis Lloyd, Lower Wych. October 11<sup>th</sup> 1899.

9/12/1899 Fatal Van Accident. On Thursday night a sad accident befell the supplementary postman from Threapwood, a youth named James Povah, aged 17 years, which resulted in instantaneous death. The accident occurred by Mr H C Parry’s, Sandhole, Cuddington. It appears that the youth had finished his round and delivered up his letters to the Malpas postman and was on his way homewards, riding in Mr James Purcell’s bread van, which was on its way home from Malpas, when passing the Sandhole, the horse appears to have run up the ditch bank and the youth, seeing that the van was going over, jumped out; and in doing so the top of the van fell full on his head before he could get out of the way. The cries of the distressed driver soon brought help, but when extricated from the overturned vehicles there appeared no sign of life. The body was carried to Mr S Callcott’s whose farm is close by, and medical aid sent for, but when the doctor arrived he pronounced life extinct. An inquest will be held.

16/12/1899 Sarn Bridge. Mrs Edwards was selling wheelwright’s and other tools, furniture etc.

2/6/1900 Threapwood 24<sup>th</sup> May (The Queen’s Birthday) was made the occasion of great rejoicing by the teachers and scholars of Threapwood School, to mark the welcome news of the anxiously looked for relief of Mafeking, whose long and gallant defence will ever be remembered in history. At 1.30pm 60 or 70 children assembled for a procession through the village, in their gala dresses and sticks decorated with flowers, plus banners and Union Jacks, lent for the day by Mrs Howard of Broughton Hall, which was the first place the children marched to. There they sang ‘Before All Lands’ and ‘Soldiers of the Queen’ They were taken into the Hall, where there was more singing before leaving, there were three hearty cheers for the Queen. Major General Baden Powell and for Mr and Mrs John Howard. They then proceeded to the Holy Land, where they received oranges and milk from Mr and Miss Lewis. There was a halt at the Vicarage to sing ‘God Save The Queen’ and the last stop was at Mr and Mrs Skelland’s farm where they again sang the National Anthem. Then they returned to school, where races and games were played in a neighbouring field lent by Mr J Povey. Refreshments were then taken and there were scrambles for sweets and nuts.

25/8/1900 Frank Lloyd was selling 2 freehold cottages, gardens, crofts, nearly an acre altogether at Threapwood, occupied by Mr Joseph Mountford and Mrs Richard Brookfield.